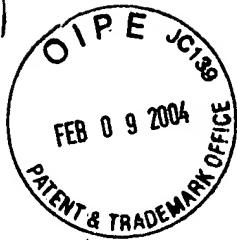


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Docket No.: 21581-00234-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yoshiki Nakagawa et al.

Application No.: 09/719,580

Confirmation No.: 2233

Filed: March 9, 2001

Art Unit: 1713

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING BRANCHED
POLYMER AND POLYMER

Examiner: T. Zalukaeva

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 (37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)).

A copy of each reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

The relevance of German-language European Patent Application 0 522 376 A1 (Cite No. BC) can be found in its English-language counterpart, U.S. Patent 5,254,632 (Cite No. AA).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00234-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

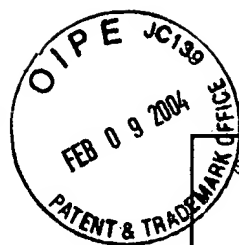
Dated: 2-9-04

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Burton A. Amernick

Registration No.: 24,852
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036-3425
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 09/719,580 |
| | | | | Filing Date | March 9, 2001 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Yoshiki Nakagawa |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1713 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | T. Zalukaeva |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 21581-00234-US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| | BA | | EP-1 059 308 A1 | 12-13-2000 | Kaneka Corporation | | |
| | BB | | EP-0 357 036 | 03-07-1990 | Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd. | | |
| | BC | | EP-0 522 376 A1 | 01-13-1993 | Rohm GmbH | | |

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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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